

Wisconsin Department of Regulation & Licensing

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION AND LICENSING

SOCIAL WORK SECTION

SOCIAL WORK TRAINING CERTIFICATE

SELF-HELP GUIDE FOR EDUCATION

The following may be helpful in self-evaluation, but the only sure way to determine eligibility for a social work training certificate, and the individual courses and experience that may be required, is to submit an application (Form #2159) and transcripts of education, along with a \$10.00 fee, to the Department of Regulation and Licensing for review. Allow 6 to 8 weeks for processing. Applications can be obtained online at www.drl.wi.gov. The Department cannot give informal assessments over the phone.

1. What degrees will qualify me for a social work training certificate?

- A bachelors degree in psychology, sociology or criminal justice; or another human service program approved by the Social Work Section will qualify.
- A bachelor's degree in another human services major may qualify, but must be reviewed by the Social Work Section. A masters degree in a human services area may qualify, but must be reviewed.

2. Is my major a human services major?

- Any other human services majors must focus predominantly on coursework related to providing services to individuals with difficulties in psychological and social functioning.
- Human services coursework must include content such as psychology, sociology, crisis intervention, therapeutic interviewing, counseling techniques, child or adolescent welfare, clinical placements and field practicums in social service agencies.
- There must be a course with significant content in professional ethics and values in the helping professions, and a senior seminar or capstone course that pulls together the themes of the helping professions.
- A grade point average of 2.5 or greater in the major is required.

3. What courses will I need to take?

- To count toward the requirements, courses must be taken for academic credit, not job training or seminars. Correspondence courses and independent study courses must be reviewed by the Social Work Section and are rarely accepted, as they don't include needed discussion and practice.
- Four courses are required. Courses may be completed in previous education, or after applying for the certificate.

Requirements:

- Schools usually know whether their courses have been approved as meeting the training certificate requirements.
- For self-evaluation, look for the following. Course descriptions or syllabi must be submitted for official determination in ambiguous cases.

Social Welfare Policy and Services: One 3 credit course with predominant focus on social welfare policy analysis. These courses are usually called "Social Welfare Policy", or a similar title.

Social Work Practice Methods: Two 3 credit courses, usually called "Social Work Practice I and II," or similar title. One course usually focuses on practice methods with individuals, the second course usually focuses on practice methods with groups, communities and organizations. Courses in counseling methods that include interviewing may be accepted as meeting the first Methods course requirement, but not both requirements. Research methods and theory courses do not count.

Human Behavior and the Social Environment: One 3 credit course, can be called "Human Behavior and the Social Environment", but can also be Human Growth and Development through the Lifespan, Developmental Psychology, or a combination of 3 or more separate courses that cover 3 different phases of the life span.